

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7408

BILL NUMBER: HB 1894

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 27, 2003

BILL AMENDED: Feb 26, 2003

SUBJECT: Credit Card Processing Fees as Court Costs.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Stevenson

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill permits a clerk to collect a credit card service fee from a person who uses a credit card to make a transaction with the clerk. It specifies that the credit card service fee is in addition to the amount of bail set by the trial court.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Allows courts to recover transactions costs:* Currently there is no legal barrier for court personnel accepting credit cards to pay for fees, penalties, and other monetary charges assessed by a court. However, court personnel are not currently permitted to pass along the transaction charge for the use of a credit card to the person paying with a credit card.

This bill would permit a court to collect the transaction charge when a payment is made by credit card. This transaction charge is generally part of the negotiated contract associated with accepting credit card payments. Vendor's fees depend on negotiated contracts as well as the amount of each transaction.

Consequently, the fiscal impact of this bill depends on local action and the negotiated fee.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Courts.

Information Sources:

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